

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health  
**OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
 THURSDAY, November 19, 2015  
 MEETING MINUTES  
 DR. LARRY GASCO, CHAIRPERSON, FACILITATING

**APPROVED on January 28, 2016**  
**MSC: Cooperberg/Lue/Unanimous**

Presenter	Discussion	Recommendation/Action/Motion/
<b>Call to Order by Commissioner Lawrence Lue (Chairman Gasco in route)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Roll Call – Terry Lewis</b>  <b>Absent Excused:</b> Herman DeBose, Victoria Sofro, Cynthia Sanchez, Merilla Scott  <b>Absent:</b> Sharon Lyle and Fred Leaf</li> <li>• Commissioner Lue welcomed Dr. Robin Kay, Acting Director of Mental Health and Dennis Murata, Acting Chief Deputy Director.</li> <li>• Announcements were made by Hector Ramirez and Terry Lewis</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approval of September 24, 2015 minutes</b></li> </ul>	<b>Motion to approve September 24, 2015 minutes – Chairman Gasco</b> <b>Motion: Commissioner De La Torre</b> <b>Second: Commissioner Cooperberg</b>
<b>Dr. Larry Gasco Chairman’s Report</b>	<b>SAAC Co-Chair/MHC Meeting Report</b> Chairman Gasco stated the November 10, 2015 meeting was successful <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion continued on the number of consumer representation for the IAB is not adequately represented.</li> <li>• SAAC Co-Chairs support the Commission to send a letter to the board requesting to increase the number of consumer representation for the IAB.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Executive Committee Report</b> Commissioner Lue covered major items discussed at the November 5, 2015 meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December Offsite – Lambert Park in El Monte, CA</li> <li>• Bylaws Committee – Work is ongoing in terms of reviewing the bylaws. The committee will meet</li> </ul>	

Presenter	Discussion	Recommendation/Action/Motion/
	<p>again in January 2016. Draft is ready awaiting input from support staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Committee – Commissioners met with Dr. Robin Kay and Kim Nall to discuss Commission budget and DMH budget. Commissioner De La Torre serves as chair.</li> </ul> <p><b>CALBHB/C Vacancy</b>– Chairman Gasco and Commissioner De La Torre attended the quarterly meeting in October. Chairman Gasco encouraged Commissioners to join the CALBHB/C to fill one of the vacancies.</p> <p><b>Profiles of Hope Update</b> – Chairman thanked efforts of Commissioner Sofro and Terry Lewis for making the Profiles of Hope a great success.</p> <p><b>Support Staff Request</b> – The ongoing request for additional staff is evident today because we have one staff supporting the entire meeting; which is difficult. Thank you Terry.</p>	
<p><b>Robin Kay, PhD</b> <b>Acting Director, Mental Health</b></p>	<p><b>DMH Report:</b> Status Report on Major Initiatives Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Office of Jail Diversion was created by board ordinance. Dr. Mark Ghaly heads the office until a permanent position is appointed.</li> <li>Two components that involve DMH: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co response team collaborations expanded to eleven municipal police departments. Seven more cities are finalizing MOUs (memorandum of understanding). The new jail diversion proposal will expand to include the Sheriff Department.</li> <li>New 24/7 LPS designated urgent care centers</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

Presenter	Discussion	Recommendation/Action/Motion/
	<p>opened at both Olive View and Martin Luther King, Jr. medical centers, and the reopening of Westside Urgent Center. Solicitations for four additional urgent centers are being scored. No bids were submitted for the Antelope Valley. Involved in discussions with Commissioner Cooperberg, DMH staff, and County Council to develop alternative plans for the AV.</p> <p>Misdemeanor Incompetent to Stand Trial Program -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with interdisciplinary team to tailor housing and services for inmates referred to receive restoration services.</li> <li>As of September 2015, nineteen people moved into the community from the jails.</li> <li>Superior Court Judges have proposed collaborative community courts in four locations to negotiate treatment instead of incarceration for people with mental illness, substance issues, veterans, etc. DMH will provide staff for the specialty courts.</li> </ul> <p>Homeless –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large homeless initiative originally from DPSS now part of the CEO is in collaboration with Los Angeles City. Efforts to include the Los Angeles City Council were established to address homelessness. DMH is participating in all three initiatives.</li> <li>Nine working groups convened covering issues from outreach and engagement, criminal justice, land use planning to benefits establishment.</li> </ul>	

Presenter	Discussion	Recommendation/Action/Motion/
	<p>Health Agency Status</p> <p>Board has identified a Health Agency Director. Appointment will be made in closed session.</p> <p>The work of the agency has been established. The following initiatives have begun to meet with DMH staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and TAY – Brian Mershon and Terri Boykins</li> <li>• Cultural Diversity – Dennis Murata</li> <li>• Psychiatric Emergency Room Decompression – Dr. Mark Ghaly and Mary Marx</li> <li>• Access to Care -</li> <li>• Jail Diversion -</li> <li>• Homelessness -</li> </ul> <p><b>Legislative Analyst – Susan Rajlal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handed out a written report on bills that reflect an interest in mental health. Activity for mental health has increased from 45 to 88 bills.</li> </ul> <p>Issues that are predominant –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crisis in hospitals that are non-designated, overcrowded, and label everyone mentally ill</li> <li>• Homelessness - Lot of legislation on homeless and what to do about that problem</li> <li>• Children and psychotropic drugs, placement and change in placement, and family reunifications</li> <li>• Integration with mental health and substance abuse to create a system</li> <li>• Conservatorship issue. Courts put people coming out of jail on conservatorship when there is nothing else to offer. Conservatorship is not appropriate for the long term treatment</li> </ul>	

Presenter	Discussion	Recommendation/Action/Motion/
	intended for people leaving jail or prison.	
<b>Public Comments</b>	Eleven members of the public addressed the Commission and DMH staff.	<b>Issues were addressed and referred to follow up.</b>
<b>Interagency Advisory Board</b>	Integration Advisory Board meeting update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First meeting was October 29</li> <li>• Purpose was to elect two co-chairs</li> <li>• Will meet monthly</li> <li>• Commissioner Ramirez attended as community member. He stated client participation was low.</li> <li>• There will be no alternates for consumers or commissioners for the IAB.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Motion to appeal the disqualification of Jean Harris for Consumer Representative for the IAB</b>	<b>Motion not passed – lack of quorum vote</b>
<b>Commissioners' Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No Reports</b></li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 1 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 2 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 5 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 6 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 7 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 8 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>LACCC Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report</li> </ul>	
<b>Meeting adjourned</b>	<b>Next Meeting – Offsite in Service Area 3</b> <b>December 17, 2015 @ 11 am – 1:30 pm</b> <b>City of El Monte - Lambert Park</b> <b>11431 McGirk St</b> <b>El Monte, CA 91731</b>	